

EVENING BULLETIN

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WALLACE R. FARRINGTON, - - - EDITOR

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MONDAY, APRIL 22, 1912

We scatter seeds with careless hand,
And dream we never shall see them more,
But for a thousand years
Their fruit appears
In weeds that mar the land
Or fruitful store.

—Kehle.

The decision of the Punahou Trustees to give the papant a second time for the special benefit of the public and private schools of the city is to be commended. It is a fine thing for such a school to share some of its advantages with the children of the other schools. It is an act in keeping with Punahou's missionary spirit and tradition. The loss of time and additional labor will be considerable in comparison with the information, inspiration, and enjoyment it will give to hundreds of children who will long cherish the memory of the gorgeous historical pageant.

SIZING UP OUR MUNICIPAL SYSTEM.

If the report that can be said of the City and County of Honolulu is contained in the report to the Chamber of Commerce by Mr. H. Gooding Field, then the administration of the City and County of Honolulu is not a title so bad as nine-tenths the population have been led to believe.

As a matter of fact, when we consider that local municipal government has been established against bitter opposition which operated to make the law as unworkable as it could, and that the system was an experiment in its adaptation of mainland methods to conditions here, and was new to nine-tenths of the population, under all the considerations the Bulletin wishes to go on record as declaring that County government has done might well, and will compare very favorably with the Territorial administration, past and present, for economy of administration and efficiency.

First of all let it be noted that in all this search of the records not one trace of a line of graft has been found to charge against the City and County of Honolulu.

It is to be said by the Big Business man that the inefficiency of labor on the roads is graft in a disguised form. The Day Laborers will point to the example drawn by Mr. Field that the Territory has money on which it is paying four per cent interest lying idle in the treasury and the City and County when short of funds is forced to pay five per cent interest on registered warrants. One is the result of inefficiency of the individual employed; the other is the product of inefficient legislation and the "good citizen" is as much to blame as anyone.

Second, the Field report has brought forcibly to public attention the fact that Hawaii should have a charter revision commission to more thoroughly study and readjust the city and county responsibilities in their relation to the Territorial government. By this we do not mean that a complete upheaval will be made in the city and county governments of the islands. We must remember, however, that we of Hawaii have fitted upon our commonwealth a combination of municipal systems that have worked well in various places on the mainland. We had to try them out before we could determine how they would apply here. Now the time has come when the permanency of the so-called county government is accepted, and we should do our utmost by careful study to adjust and improve, the action being based on our own experience.

The worst indictment Mr. Field can bring against this City and County of Honolulu is to show a "total possible annual savings" of \$94,000.

An analysis of this saving carries one right back to conditions for which all elements are responsible, and also to the Territorial as well as the municipal government.

For instance, one of these items where Mr. Field proposes to save, is, \$12,000 paid the Hawaiian band. Is there any considerable number of taxpayers who wish to give up the Hawaiian band? We believe if the question were put to a direct vote of the taxpaying population as a plain issue, the result would be overwhelmingly for not only the band but a larger organization. Incidentally Mr. Field showed that he can make mistakes, as his figures of band cost for 1906 indicate that he was ignorant of the fact that the band was absent from the islands for about six months of that year. We must have accuracy and efficiency on the part of our experts if we are to draw correct conclusions.

The bald statement—sort of a guess as it appears to some readers—is made that \$50,000 can be saved in the administration of the road department. Former City Engineer Gere says he would like to know where this saving can be made. Mr. Field's report suggests bringing foreign firms in to the list of contractors bidding on street construction, but we doubt whether such a plan will meet with favor in this community pledged so strongly to home production as well as citizen labor.

EVENING SMILES

He—After we are married, don't you ever hesitate to ask me when you want money.
She—I won't, darling; and I hope you will never hesitate about giving it to me.

"I've spent all my money, my race-horse is lame, my wife has eloped with my jockey. What more can happen, I wonder?"
"Your wife can come back."

"Well, Willie, what's the matter?"

"Hoo-hoo!" Teacher walloped me for something I never did!"
"Hut!" That's unjust. What was it you didn't do?"
"The sum teacher set me. Hoo-hoo!"

"Father," inquired the small boy, making his first visit to the army post, "what house is that over there?"

"That's the Government headquarters, Jimmy."

A long, puzzled silence, then "Father, where are its headquarters?"

A saving of \$10,000 is estimated in the sanitation system. Everyone knows that the conflicting authority between the City and Territory in this instance is bad business just as it is between the Territorial Department of Public Works and the City Road Department. It is a matter of opinion whether money would not be saved by placing more authority with the city, and the exact facts cannot be known until the Territorial administration is subjected to the same searching inquiry as the municipality. And here again we have an added argument for revision and adjustment, to prevent duplication of work and conflict of authority.

Mr. Field proposes to cut out the Mayor's salary and suggests that the Supervisors spend a good part of their time each day in the city offices. Here is another chance for a difference of opinion, whether we should make the Supervisors do more or elect a more efficient Mayor and pay him well.

Other items of economy are suggested in the fire department, the County Jail, the Treasurer's office, the care of parks and school grounds and of Kapalani park.

The comment on the City and County Attorney's office sounds decidedly prejudiced on account of the arbitrary comparison with a city of the mainland rather than the former and present methods of handling the same public service in this Territory.

Take the report all in all, the Bulletin believes that it shows the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of Honolulu and our officers generally to have performed their duties very well indeed. Not one word is suggested that reflects upon their integrity. The element of efficiency is not so strong as could be desired, but after all is said and done we believe Honolulu will shape up well in comparison with any municipality of the mainland, and the experience of our people in municipal administration is limited.

The investigation should be continued to include the Territorial administration and the facts thus gained made the basis for further study and eventual adjustment by a charter commission provided for by the Legislature, and that charter eventually submitted to the people for acceptance or rejection.

Hawaii can be depended on to temper the wind to the shorn Lamb.

What a relief it would be if all hands would let the tariff alone for a while.

Free sugar is the confirmed Democratic doctrine. How can Hawaii vote itself into suicide by that route?

Anything that savors of a boycott is childish in the first place and always works both ways in the long run.

It looks as if Mr. Roosevelt might like to take the railroads and the railroads let President Taft will have the vote for renomination.

Get the habit of thinking of a well-balanced ticket of efficient men for the Republican municipal ticket in the Fall campaign.

Electing Kuhl as delegate to take care of this Territory's interests in Washington is what might be termed Hawaii's unfinished business.

Honolulu cannot find a better investment than time spent in securing a strong municipal ticket and money expended in improved sanitation.

Link is linking the links by scattering seeds of kindness early in the game. It may be more difficult to link the voters after the national convention.

The great third party move seems to have fallen flat for the reason that it was hinged on the ambitions of one man. New ways to injure Mr. Taft will have to be thought up.

Don't quit working for the Macon's plan. There'll soon be enough regiments on this island to fill the permanent Schofield barracks, and accede into the town of Honolulu and onto the proposed waterfront parade ground.

When Congress passes the campaign publicity bill, and gives Hawaii the apportionment and direct primary law which its own Legislature cannot agree upon, then the Territory will reap results that will be the direct voice of the people.

If it be proposed to advance Engineer Wheeler as the head of the Public Works Department, the move will be in the right direction if the record and experience of Mr. Wheeler are such as to forward an efficient and vigorous administration.

Another tourist has bought real estate in Honolulu. There are gold dollars kicking around under foot that the man who has been here fifty years is too conservative to see. This is a city with a future as well as a comfortable past and present.

Mr. Jarmay's refusal of assistance for the Titanic from a nearly German ship shows an over-confidence in the ability of the big ship to keep afloat or criminal folly in risking hundreds of lives rather than get assistance from an opposing and German line.

With Whitehouse in charge of the City and County Engineer's office and Mr. Johnson engineer for the Belt Road Commission, we ought to get some snappy results for the county in the next few months. It looks like a mighty good working team all along the line.

Slowly but very surely Honolulu is being freed from the mosquito pest. This will add a thousand per cent to the attractiveness of a city that is already very inviting to the tourists of the world. But the war of extermination can be completely successful only by the united efforts of a united community, keeping everlastingly at it.

Honolulu has more reason to keep watch of promotion activities and the progress of the Government in the development of Pearl Harbor, than to worry over whether the steamships in this ocean carry enough boats. The steamships are all right. We must see that the people continue to come this way and then make them feel at home after they arrive.

Inside of fifteen months water will be let into the big ditch at Panama, and soon thereafter ships will be coming through. A large number of those ships will be destined for the Far East and will stop at Honolulu for all kinds of supplies. The city is probably all fixed to supply from three to ten big ocean liners a week with everything that the market affords. Get ready for the Canal!

ALEWA HEIGHTS ROAD UNDER NEW SPECIFICATION

Editor Evening Bulletin—When the Superintendent of Public Works first called for bids on Alewa Heights road, W. A. Hardy put in a bid, accompanied with a certified check, to build the 2100 feet of road for the sum of \$5467, or at a rate of \$2.60 per running foot.

P. M. Pond at the same time put an alternate bid to build the 1500 feet of upper road for \$3225 per foot and \$2.25 for the 600 feet of lower road.

Both bids were thrown out right away with the excuse that they were too high.

In yesterday morning's paper I noticed that the Alewa Heights road contract had been awarded to Gomer & Co. for a set price of \$2.61 per running foot.

TAXPAYER.

Honolulu, April 22, 1912.
Superintendent Campbell when seen as to this matter this morning stated that the tenders referred to in the letter were in accordance with

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THE WIRELESS

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DID NOT LEAVE A HAPPY HOME

Captain William Fisher had occasion to smile this morning when on arrival from the Orient as commander of the Pacific Mail liner Korea, he recounted the trying experience where in his gallant ship bordered the danger-line of a wholesale desertion by his Chinese crew.

During a four-hour stay at Manila, the Philippine capital, a hundred or more Chinese for a time made things interesting for the stout-hearted officers in the Korea.

George Mitchell, with the steward's staff in the Korea, is alleged to have been mugged with the goods. In this instance it was a rather diminutive package said to have contained \$500 worth of morphine and cocaine.

A Manila customs inspector noticed a bulge in the mizzen pocket of Second Steward George Mitchell when that officer walked down the gang plank on the Korea on arrival there. The inspector's hand followed his eye and Mitchell's pocket yielded morphine. Mitchell was arrested on a charge of illegal possession of morphine.

A quick investigation of the case dis-

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House and lot, Palama, \$1,650
House and lot, Palama, 2,400
House and lot, Aiea, 1,750
Business Property, Queen St., 15,000
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closed the fact that Mitchell had been asked by two Chinese of the Korea crew to bring the drug ashore. Mok Took San is one of the Chinese and is also No. 1 China boy aboard the Korea, which means that he is in charge of all the Chinese. The other Chinese is Ching Po, whose rank in China is No. 2.

Mok and Ching were arrested on a charge of illegal importation of morphine. Mok and Ching pleaded not guilty; Mitchell pleaded guilty. Counsel for the Chinese filed a demurrer on the ground that the complaint drawn up in the office of the prosecuting attorney was irregular.

Captain Fisher asked that the cases be given immediate attention, his ship sailed that afternoon and his entire Chinese crew would leave the ship at Hongkong if Mok and Ching were left in Manila. Counsel for the Chinese agreed to withdraw his demurrer and Mok and Ching pleaded guilty. Mok was fined 500 pesos, Ching 400 pesos and Mitchell 200 pesos.

The fines were paid and sunshine was again in the soul of Captain Fisher; likewise contentment in the hearts of 100 Chinese boys.

AWARD ALEWA HEIGHTS CONTRACTS TO GOMES & CO

Gomes & Co. has been awarded the contract for the construction of the Alewa Heights road, the price set being 40 cents per foot.

This means that all the road, except one hundred feet will be constructed. The hundred feet were taken off the total of 1500 so that some of the branch roads might be built that otherwise would have been sacrificed. The step was taken following a conference between the Governor and Superintendent of Public Works, Mr. Campbell. The total price will run between \$5000 and \$6000.

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Honolulu Dairymen's Association

Phone 1542